

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: Peter Martin Smit )  
 Application Number: 10/533,164 )  
 National Filing Date: October 30, 2003 )  
 Int'l App. No.: PCT/AU03/01436 )  
 Int'l Filing Date: October 30, 2003 )  
 Priority Date: October 31, 2002 )  
 Group Art Unit: 3753 )  
 Examiner: Unassigned )  
 For: VALVE ASSEMBLY )

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL**

I hereby certify that the following documents, which are attached, are being deposited under 37 CFR 1.10, with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service as Express Mail No. EV 451433810 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

- (1) Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, with References; and
- (2) Return Postcard.

Should any other fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Deposit Account No. 07-0153.

Date: 1/3/07

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah K. Fooks, CLA  
 Paralegal to Jennifer S. Sickler

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant:	Peter Martin Smit	)
		)
Application Number:	10/533,164	)
		)
National Filing Date:	October 30, 2003	)
		)
Int'l App. No.:	PCT/AU03/01436	)
		)
Int'l Filing Date:	October 30, 2003	)
		)
Priority Date:	October 31, 2002	)
		)
Group Art Unit:	3753	)
		)
Examiner:	Unassigned	)
		)
For:	VALVE ASSEMBLY	)

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant encloses the attached PTO/SB/08A form citing references to be considered and cited in the examination for the above-identified patent application.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Written notification that the enclosed references have been considered in their entirety by return of a copy of the enclosed form, completed by the Examiner, is respectfully requested.

**Identification Of Time Of Filing The  
 Information Disclosure Statement**

- [ ] This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the national application.
- [ ] This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

- ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the First Office Action on the merits.
- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months of the filing date of the national application or after three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Accompanying this transmittal is:

- ☐ statement specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e); or
- ☐ a fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p)
- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action under § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under § 1.311 but before the payment of the issue fee.

Accompanying this transmittal is:

1. a statement as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e); and
2. a fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p)

**Statement For Information Disclosure Statement 37 CFR 1.97(E)**  
(Only if Required Above)

I, the person signing below hereby state that:

- ☐ each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1); or
- ☐ no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in the counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2).

**Translations of Foreign Documents**

This Information Disclosure Statement do include patents that are written in Non-English languages.

**Fee Payment**

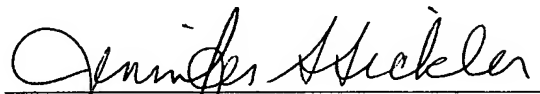
- ☐ attached is a check in the amount of \$N/A
- ☐ charge Deposit Account No. 07-0153  
in the amount \$N/A

Applicant believes that no additional fees are due for the filing of this IDS. However, if any additional fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 07-0153.

Respectfully submitted,

GARDERE WYNNE SEWELL LLP

Date: 1-3-07



Jennifer S. Sickler  
Reg. No. 36,005  
1000 Louisiana, Suite 3400  
Houston, TX 77002-5011  
Telephone: (713) 276-5382  
Facsimile: (713) 276-6382  
E-mail: jsickler@gardere.com



Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/533,164
Filing Date	October 30, 2003
First Named Inventor	Peter Martin Smit
Art Unit	3753
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	130098-1000

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.